



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Redevelopment Board Minutes 05/05/2008

Arlington Redevelopment Board
Minutes of May 5, 2008

Members Present: Christopher Loreti
Roland Chaput
Andrew West
Bruce Fitzsimmons

Also Present: Kevin J. O'Brien
David Berry

Andrew West called the meeting to order at 7 PM and said that he wanted to discuss the possibility of asking Town Meeting to allow more uses at the Medical Office Building site at the Symmes project. Three members of the Symmes Neighborhood Advisory Committee were in attendance and joined in the discussion. Some of the opinions expressed were: we generally should locate quiet uses in busy places and busy uses in quiet places (Symmes being a quiet place), long term care uses (24 hrs.) may not allow alternative use of parking for the site, short term uses may allow more Arlington residents to use the site (more public benefit). There were many questions from the SNAC members about the marketing effort that had been undertaken by the developer.

Bruce Fitzsimmons attempted to summarize the agreement in opinions that were expressed. He said that people want 1.) a use that involved short term stays as opposed to a use that involves long term stays, 2.) a use that provides some community benefit, 3.) a use that involves the furtherance of health.

After more discussion the Board agreed that at this point it would recommend allowing only medical office use or wellness center that includes medical offices at least through the remainder of the time that the developer controls the site, that is through December, 2008. After December, the Board might recommend that a wellness center without medical doctor's offices be allowed.

The Board reviewed the draft minutes of the April 14, 2008 meeting and suggested several amendments. Roly Chaput moved that the minutes of the April 14, 2008 be approved. Bruce Fitzsimmons seconded the motion and the Board voted 3 to 0 to approve (Chris Loreti had left the meeting to attend the Town Meeting).

At 8:05 PM, the remaining members of the Board moved to the Town Hall to attend the Town Meeting. At 9:45, two members left Town Meeting and the quorum was lost.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin J. O'Brien